

HIA Training **Scoping Exercise**

1. Review the Scoping worksheet below.
2. Within the context of your case study scenario, consider one health determinant that would be prioritized in a HIA for this proposed project, plan or policy.
3. Describe potential pathways from the proposed project, plan or policy to changes in social and environmental conditions that lead to the health issues you've selected (*draw a "pathway diagram"*).
4. For each health determinant, write down some of what you already know about existing conditions and evidence related to potential health impacts. Identify vulnerable or sensitive populations that might be impacted by the proposed project, plan or policy.
5. For each health determinant, define important research questions that will need to be answered in the HIA.

The following are common themes that come up for communities with regard to health and policy proposals. Feel free to investigate other topics not listed here as well.

Secure employment Job quality & safety Quality and accessibility of housing Quality of nutrition Access to goods & services Education & child development	Air pollution Environmental noise Access to parks Preservation of open space Traffic safety Community violence Protection of community cohesion
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Pathway Diagram

HIA Scoping Worksheet – Example

Health determinant	What do we already know about existing conditions, potential health impacts and vulnerable populations?	What are the specific populations (e.g., age, gender, race and income) that will be impacted by this project/policy proposal?	What are our research questions?	What methods or data sources could help answer the research questions? What agencies might provide access to this data?
<p>Will the development furnish sufficient affordable and safe housing?</p> <p>If not, will the absence of this housing contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcrowding? • Housing cost burden? • Homelessness? 	<p>Existing conditions:</p> <p>There is insufficient supply and production of low to moderate income housing in the area.</p> <p>20% of households live in overcrowded conditions.</p> <p>Potential impacts:</p> <p>Public health evidence links overcrowding, financial strain, and displacement to respiratory disease, stress, child abuse and neglect, and a multitude of physical and mental health issues including premature mortality.</p>	<p>Vulnerable populations:</p> <p>Existing low-income and minority populations living in the development area.</p> <p>Many families with children are living in overcrowded conditions.</p>	<p>How many renters/owners, by income category, spend greater than 30% of their income on housing? <i>According to federal guidelines, housing is considered to be affordable when residents spend less than 30% of their income on housing.</i></p> <p>How does housing cost and income relate to housing conditions? How do these housing conditions impact health?</p>	<p>Data on housing availability by housing cost from city planning agencies.</p> <p>Data on housing quality in development area from health and building authorities.</p> <p>Data on housing-related illnesses and injuries from health department.</p> <p>Research linking housing conditions with specific health outcomes.</p> <p>Interviews with area residents on housing conditions.</p>

HIA Scoping Worksheet

Health determinant	What do we already know about existing conditions, potential health impacts and vulnerable populations?	What are the specific populations (e.g., age, gender, race and income) that will be impacted by this project/policy proposal?	What are our research questions?	What methods or data sources could help answer the research questions? What agencies might provide access to this data?